

PEACE RACE

On May 9, Victory Day, the 35th Peace Race in getting under way in Prague as a prologue, a 5.7 km race. Later the cyclists from 20 countries will cover 1,941 kilometers across Czechoslovakia, Poland and the GDR, where the last bursts of World War II rumbled 37 years ago. The race winds up in Berlin on May 23.

The international amateur cycling calendar contains a host of races, but this is the most popular one. Gábor Székely, former Soviet cyclist, now head of the cycling and motor sport department of the Moscow Physical Training Institute, told an MN correspondent.

He entered the event nine times, copulating USSR teams on eight occasions. In 1962 he won an individual title.

I would call this competition a university of cycling sciences, Székely emphasized, as its participants won world and Olympic medals on many occasions. The entrants compete there not only among themselves, but

also have to brave the wind, rain, snow, treacherous mountain roads and lengthy flat stretches, occasionally up to 200 kilometers long, he pointed out.

Victory goes not just to the strongest but to the most well-knit teams. I was always struck by the way racers came to each other's aid. On several occasions cycling mechanics working for foreign teams helped me with my cycling gear when Soviet mechanics was not around. Sometimes racers are so washed out they just cannot make it to a leading point — only to find their rivals readily offering sandwiches or water, Székely noted. The USSR enters its 29th race. On sixteen occasions two teams won the team title, and captured eight individual ones.

Thousands of people usually line the race route. They come there not only to see top cyclists and egg on their competitors. People who cherish the ideals of peace, friendship and cooperation among nations come there he stressed.



The USSR and the GDR clashed in a recent friendly in Moscow. Photo by Igor Utkin

PLAYERS PRIMING FOR FOOTBALL SPECTACULAR

In the follow-up to the 1982 World Cup finals the USSR edged the GDR, 1-0, in a Moscow friendly, with a goal from Shan-

gelija assisted by Sulekvelidze. The hosts dominated throughout but passed up several scoring opportunities.

Table tennis at 1988 Olympics

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch has declared that table tennis will feature at the 1988 Olympic Games.

Speaking at a press conference

in Budapest following the European table tennis championship there he stressed that the IOC leadership is glad to admit such a popular sport as table tennis to the Olympic family.

THEY MADE IT!

(Continued from page 1)

local time, and spent over eight hours storming the 348 metres, remaining to the top, in the teeth of a hurricane wind, a -40°C frost and snowfalls. The slope's inclination of 40° to 60° made the ascent still more punishing. They had enormous difficulty spotting places to drive hooks in, getting a foothold on the sheer cliff, and braving the pale-force wind—but their fortitude got them through.

The intrepid climbers spent 30 minutes on the summit, taking lots of photos. They were followed atop by another two climbers, 34-year-old Stepanek Sergei Bershov from Kharkov and Mikhail Turkevich, 29, instructor of physical culture from Donetsk. There was a unique overnight climb. The other two went to reach the summit were team captain Valentin Ivanov, 40, Moscow engineer, and his 37-year-old Sverdlovsk colleague Sergei Yalimov. The remaining two groups led by Yuryand Ilyinsky from Alma-Ata and Muscovite Valery Khomutov are on their way to the top.

Expedition head Yevgeny Tamin sent a telegram to Leonid Brezhnev saying that the first Soviet Everest expedition had reached the summit on May 11.



This is the route traversed by the Soviet expedition.

4 along a yet untraveled route and raised the national flag there.

THE ASCENT WAS NOTHING SHORT OF AN EXPLOIT

The scaling of the Everest up its south-west slope is a new page in mountaineering history and evidence of the spirit's great advancement in the USSR, noted celebrated French climber Maurice Herzog who had been the first to reach the 8,000 mark, seal the Annapurna summit in the Himalayas at the head of a French expedition in 1950. The Soviet climbers' ascent, he continued, was nothing short of an exploit.

Noted British climber Lord

Hunt had this to say: I am glad that the Soviet clubs have made it, which came as a surprise for me, what with my previous accomplishments.

Lord Hunt led the first successful Everest expedition in 1953, when New Zealand's Edmund Hillary and Nepal's Tenzing, from Nepal, conquered the summit.

I am happy that our patriots have written such a glorious page in Everest-climb history, said Soviet veteran mountaineer Vitaly Abalakov. Our climbers have enjoyed much international authority in the field, but they surely missed was seen in the Himalayas, he noted.

ATHLETICS

The Soviet discus-throwing record holder Yuri Dumchev competing for the summer season opening prize in Moscow's Lenin central stadium, reached the 69.16 m mark, the world's best this season. This achievement by Dumchev, who turns 23 in August, outstrips by a metre his own national mark set in the Olympics 1980.

this year's spectacular and other major tournaments through disagreement with the International Lawn Tennis Federation officials, has contented himself with playing only exhibition matches. In one of his recent encounters he beat American Vitas Gerulaitis, 6-4, 6-4, 7-5, in Lugan.



Defending champion Moscow Raulo Sastak edged Moscow Kriya Sastak at the start of the national women's field hockey championship.

Photo by Sergei Proskov

Tennis: stars in action

Guillermo Vilas took nearly four hours to beat Ivan Lendl, 6-7, 4-6, 6-0, 6-3, 6-4, to win the thrilling final of a Grand Prix in Madrid. Lendl, who was tipped to win the event, had upset the opponent in their most previous encounter, and besides wrapped up 14 of the 16 tournaments which he entered lately.

Five-time Wimbledon winner Swede Bjorn Borg, who will miss

Motor cycling

Yuri Khudyakov from Moscow came fifth and sixth in the third stage of the world cycling cross-country championship in Austria (125 cc class), and is seventh overall with 19 points after three stages.

The only Soviet competitor to enter the 1984 April stage of the 250 cc class was chess player, Vladimir Kevinov from Kiev, did badly, failing to enter the top ten World exchange. Gennadiy Moiseyev from Leningrad, Muscovite Anatoly Chinnikov, and Andrei Leshchikov from Voronezh will enter the contest from its third stage on May 9 in Belgium.

Soviet entrants did well in the world speedway individual championship elimination race in Bulgaria. Mikhail Shteyn from Ufa came second, in Czechoslovakia Viktor Kuznetsov and Vladimir Kuznetsov from Novosibirsk came third and sixth respectively, and Yuryugovskiy Valery Gerasimov from Belokovo finished seventh. They will now compete in the semifinals on May 9 in Belgium, Austria and the FRG.

INFORMATION

No. 37 (351), MAY 11-14, 1982

Price 5 kopeks

V-Day: sorrow and joy



According to tradition, May 9 is the day when veterans of the Great Patriotic War meet in Moscow and other cities and towns of our country. Elderly white-haired men and women, some in military uniforms, recall the hard and tragic years of war. They are often accompanied by their children and grandchildren.

In the photo: Veterans to Gorky Central Park in Moscow.

USA RESPONSIBLE FOR CHEMICAL ARMS RACE

The Soviet scientists are raising their voices in protest against Washington's decision to expand the arsenal of chemical weapons, they appeal to all the people of goodwill to join their protest, says a statement which has been signed by N. Emanuel, N. Zhevrovnikov and other prominent Soviet scientists, who include 20 academicians.

As in other areas of the arms race, the United States is attempting to camouflage its ambitious activities to build up the stockpiles of chemical weapons, by allegations concerning the "Soviet military threat," says the statement. The scientists say that the Soviet Union has held out a clear and constructive alternative. This country has been strictly observing the 1925 Geneva Protocol, and it has never used chemical weapons anywhere, nor has it handed them over to any other country. It is the Soviet Union that has been appealing to the United States and other countries to reach agreement to ban the development and manufacture of toxic agents, and to eliminate their stockpiles under effective control. In order to achieve this aim, this country has put forward numerous initiatives, including a draft of a relevant international convention which it proposed in 1972 in the Geneva Disarmament Committee. It is Washington and its closest allies that are responsible for those murderous weapons not having been banned and eliminated.



A demonstration in Buenos Aires in support of the Argentine troops in the South Atlantic. Photo by AP-TASS

HUN SEN IN MOSCOW

In Moscow, USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Gromyko has held talks with Hun Sen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, who is on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet government.

FACTS and EVENTS

President elect Luis Alberto Monge of Costa Rica has been sworn in following his victory in the presidential elections last February. He represents the National Liberation Party.

An appeal to the international community to force South Africa to withdraw its troops from Angola and to ensure that on and be put to acts of aggression carried out by racist against that country, has been made by the People's Republic of Zambia in a communique released in Lusaka, following talks between party and government delegations of the two countries.

Chadli Bendjedid, President of Algeria and Secretary-General of the National Liberation Front Party (FLN), has appointed Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim, member of the FLN Central Committee, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim, who previously held the post of Minister-Advisor to the President, replaced M. Benyaho, the late Foreign Minister, who died in an air crash.

EVEREST ASSAULT COMPLETED

A total of 11 Soviet climbers have scaled Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain, making world mountaineering history with two overnight ascents. On May 9, at 11.30 a.m. local

RELIGIOUS WORKERS FOR THE SALVATION OF THE SACRED GIFT OF LIFE FROM NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE

This is the name of the international conference which opened in Moscow on May 10, with the participation of representatives of all major religious and religious organizations from about one hundred countries. The participants include His Beatitude Nicholas VI, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, Pastor Richard Aumamanepi (Chairman of Christ of Madagascar), Archbishop of Delhi Paulos Mar Gregorios (Archbishop of Antioch and others). The conference is being held on the initiative of His Holiness Pimen, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia. It has met enthusiastic support from religious workers in many countries.

An address from the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Nikolai Tikhonov, was read to the conference. It was followed by Patriarch Pimen's report.

When I accepted Patriarch Pimen's invitation to take part in this religious conference I thought I would be criticized back home. But it seems that the majority of Americans approve of my decision. People on our planet, including religious workers, should do everything to prevent nuclear catastrophe. This is priority number one for today.

This spoke the well-known American Evangelist, Billy Gra-

ham, at his meeting with Yuri Zhukov, President of the Soviet Peace Committee.

I receive about 10,000 letters a day from my compatriots. Judging from these letters I can say that the majority of Americans stand for peace, said Billy Graham. Recently there have been a number of broadcasts on American television demonstrating what will become of our cities



Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Pimen.

In the event of a nuclear strike. Many people have been made aware for the first time of what nuclear weapons imply. This has made them realize that nuclear war must be averted.



Billy Graham (left) meets Yuri Zhukov. Photo by Boris Kaulman

associates) were given the go-ahead for the climb despite bad weather, as they were already close to their destination. Their punishing route up the south-west wall had never been attempted before.

(Continued on page 5)



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EDITORIAL BOARD

Address: 15/2 Gorky St. Moscow, USSR. Printed in the USSR. Published Tuesday and Saturday. Index 20075.

MN INFORMATION No. 37

JAN 20 1982

NATO OUT TO BOLSTER ARMS RACE

Brussels. A recent session of the NATO Defence Planning Committee attended by NATO defence ministers was keynoted by their emphases on intensified military effort.

US Defence Secretary C. Weinberger had arrived in Brussels in advance, when the bloc's "Eurogroup" was still in session, and immediately started browbeating the allies. The USA is mainly pressing for wrecking attempts to scrap the plans for deployment in Western Europe of around 600 new American medium-range nuclear missiles.

Efforts are also being made to accelerate implementation of several other NATO military programmes; evidence of this is a Brussels memo integrating a batch of British early warning and control Nimrod planes within NATO. The planes will be part of recently formed NATO air spying service, along-

side 18 AWACS Boeing planes, the first of them already stationed at the Geilenkirchen air base in the FRG. The addition of the British planes will enable NATO aircraft to pry deep into the territory of the socialist countries.

The communiqué confirms NATO plans to boost both nuclear and conventional armaments. All bloc members minus Greece supported keeping to schedule in preparations for deployment in Western Europe of new American nuclear missiles. The communiqué dealt at length with the bloc's activities outside its zone of operation. The Committee virtually backed up Washington's claims to the role of a "world policeman" and proposed NATO support for possible operations by the US "rapid deployment force" beyond the NATO frontiers to maintain Western "vital interests".

PENTAGON'S WAR GAMES IN THE CARIBBEAN

New York. Recently more than 2,000 US Marines landed on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques, M-60 tanks were also "brought into action" from amphibious ships.

The Vieques landing was a key element in the Ocean Venture-82 large-scale military games staged by the American military. This provocative show of strength by the Pentagon in the Caribbean involves 60 combat ships, including two aircraft carriers and 350 planes of various sorts, including B-52 strategic bombers. About 45,000 men are taking part, equipped with the most up-to-date weapons.

Spokesmen for the Pentagon and the US administration do

not conceal the fact that Ocean Venture-82 is intended to demonstrate the "determination" of American imperialism to "defend its vital interests" in the Caribbean. According to the US Secretary for the Navy, J. Lehman, the American Navy is capable of blocking "any area of the Caribbean".

Quoting well-informed sources, the AP news agency stresses that the games, particularly the mass invasion of Vieques, are also intended as a demonstration of American power aimed at Cuba. The landing in Guantanamo, part of Cuban territory usurped by the USA, had the same purpose in view.

USA responsible for chemical arms race

(Continued from page 1)

The transference of the arms race into the sphere of chemical weapons, the Soviet scientists believe, will further aggravate the international atmosphere and increase the danger of an outbreak of war.

In which these weapons could be used, causing severe consequences for the future of the entire mankind. Defying the will of the people and the desire for peace, the US administration thus challenges the world public.



Drawing by Igor Smolinov

BUSH LEAVES PEKING EMPTY-HANDED

Peking. No results have emerged from the talks held between US Vice-President G. Bush and Deng Xiaoping, Premier Zhao Ziyang of the Chinese State Council, and the Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua.

The negotiations centered on American deliveries of weapons, military equipment and spare parts to Taiwan. Peking bel-

ieves that these deliveries constitute "interference in the domestic affairs of the Chinese People's Republic", "violation of the principles of the joint Sino-American Communiqué on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries" and "an encroachment on China's sovereignty".

Before leaving China, G. Bush told newsmen at the airport

Al-Assad on Soviet and American policy in the Middle East

Beirut. In an interview with the "Al-Mustakbal" Lebanese weekly, the Syrian President H. el-Assad said that his country and the Soviet Union are linked by strong bonds. Syria's relations with Syria, he added, were based on principles of equality, and the Soviet Union did not interfere in Syria's domestic affairs. The USSR is a true friend to Syria, he claims, the aggression unleashed against the Arabs as well as the Israeli occupation of our land and it supports our struggle for their liberation. The USA champions the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to a state of their own.

President contested the military aid which the Soviet Union gave Syria to defend its independence to the various American deliveries of weapons to the Israeli aggressors for the purpose of preserving Tel Aviv's superiority over the Arab states.

On the problem of Egypt's return to the Arab fold, President Assad noted that Egypt's removal from the Arab fold had been caused by G. David and that its return is conditional on the abrogation of these agreements.

that the differences between the two countries on this issue still remained, and further negotiations to overcome these differences will be continued between officials of the two countries in Peking. With regard to the US, G. Bush quoted President Reagan's statement that the United States would not let its old friends in need.

African ministers urge more solidarity with Namibian people

Dar es Salaam. The Tanzanian capital was recently the venue for a regular meeting of the foreign ministers of the 12 southern African states. Among the line states — Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Swaziland — were also representatives of Nigeria and Kenya and a SWAPO delegation.

In discussing the situation in the south of Africa, specifically the Namibian liberation struggle, the ministers agreed that the most effective way to achieve their independence is through the armed struggle.

Still the final communiqué stresses that "from the SWAPO perspective, the struggle for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian problem is the only one that offers the most flexibility and speed to achieve their independence".

No amount of military preparation can boost economic advancement and living standards — goals which ASEAN was expressly set up to meet, while military preparation is precisely what the USA would like ASEAN to boost.

FACTS and EVENTS

© A demand for the recognition of Japan's right to wage war has come from the country's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party. This militarist claim is contained in an official document issued by the LDP Commission for the Study of the Constitution.

© During the last week of April, border areas of the People's Republic of Kampuchea were bombed on 110 occasions by that artillery, the Kampuchean news agency SPAK reports.

© Under certain conditions nuclear weapons may be sold in Spain. This is clear from a statement issued in Washington by the Spanish Foreign Minister, P. Pérez Llorca, following his meeting with American Secretary of State, Alexander Haig.

© Veterans of the American Seventh Fleet will take part in the 11-day joint US-Philippine naval exercises which are to begin on May 16 off the north coast of the Philippine island of Luzon.

U.S. ADOPTS COMPROMISE BUDGET

Washington. Speaking of a press conference, President Reagan has announced that his administration and the Senate Budget Committee have reached a compromise over the proposed 1983 federal budget.

The fierce struggle which arose over the proposed budget is striking. A few hours before the press conference, the Senate Budget Committee had unanimously rejected the draft budget regarded by the administration as a key element in its economic policy. The committee maintained it was necessary to reduce military expenditure, to put an end to the growth in the budget deficit and to modify the taxation policy — none of the draft budget's features. The committee voted in favour of a compromise version of the budget following heavy pressure from the President.

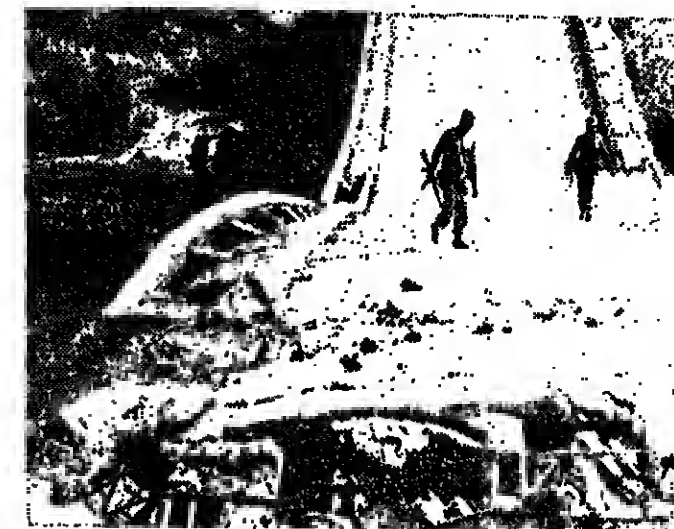
The main provision of the compromise version consists in a reduction of the budget deficit to be achieved by severe economy measures including: a pay freeze for government employees, and further drastic cuts in expenditure on social programmes. Tax concessions for big business will remain virtually untouched. There will also be an increase in military expenditure, though on a smaller scale than the administration had hoped for.

PEOPLE

The indefatigable French researcher Jacques-Yves Cousteau is setting out to research the giant Brazilian Amazon River. According to him, this would be the most exciting, risky and important trip of all he has ever undertaken. He is planning to spend a year on the river.

'ORIENTAL EXPRESS' BACK AGAIN?

Bonn. The renowned early 20th-century "Oriental Express" train immortalized by British novelist Agatha Christie has been renovated to start regular service between West Germany's North Sea coast and Italy. Reconstruction is under way in Bremen of eight "Oriental Express" carriages brought from Spain and Portugal where they were used until recently for passenger transportation.



With the White House's direct connivance the CIA has set about knocking together clandestine subversive groups in Nicaragua. In the photo: a bridge wrecked by the counter-revolutionaries.

Photo Prensa Latina-TASS

Science and technology

MAGNETS AND MALARIA

Malaria germs may live in the human body for a long time before their presence can be detected by means of blood tests. The American "Science Digest" magazine reports that British scientists have now designed a new method which enables malarial germs to be detected that much sooner. The haemoglobin in the blood contains iron. Exposed to a magnetic field, the iron particles usually line up at right angles to the magnetic field. The presence of germs dramatically changes their arrangement. The magnetic system used by the scientists is a thousand times as powerful as the one used before.

ICE PROTECTS APPLES FROM FROST

In order to protect apple orchards from unexpected frosts, farms in the Potsdam district in the GDR use ice. Specialists have found out that the buds of trees about to blossom can withstand frosts of up to -2°C in order to make an ice covering, usual watering installations are used. Beneath the ice layer a more favourable environment is created, with temperatures remaining above -0.5°C whatever the temperature outside.

LOOKING FOR ALTERNATIVES

Preliminary studies have been initiated to explore the possibilities of building a road link between Europe and Africa via the Straits of Gibraltar. Whereas the Spanish government has commissioned a project to build an underwater tunnel, the Moroccan government, on the other side, has asked two organizations to find out the best idea for a rigid link between the two continents such as a bridge, a tunnel, a tube, etc., reports the "Financial Times" of London.

THE SUN SHINES AT NIGHT

The solar energy is finding ever increasing application throughout the world. The Japanese

nese Matsushita Electric Works company has decided to use it for illumination at night. A special installation it has designed uses the sun rays to charge a storage battery which gives electricity to street lamps when night falls. The accumulators' charge lasts eight hours, writes the magazine "Jeune Afrique".

POCKET TV

The new television set "Flot TV" designed by the Sony Corporation of Japan claims to be the smallest television set in the world. It easily fits into a pocket and weighs nearly four hundred grammes.

The miniature picture tube designed to receive black and white programmes is only 18 millimetres "deep". It took the Japanese specialists several years before they could start the mass production of this miniature tube.



OF INTEREST

Family movie

Jean-Paul Belmondo stars in a new movie "Ace of Aces" in Munich to be shown in theatres next: October. The actor's son Paul is taking part in a movie for the first time. He is assistant director. The father thinks this is a good beginning.

How long

"A moment of light" is the time that lapses between a point

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

EEC TOUGHEST ACTION EVER

The SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper describes the embargo on imports of Argentinian goods as the toughest action ever taken by the EEC.

This step by the Common Market betrays an obvious desire by the EEC not only to step up pressure on Buenos Aires, but also to support the American diplomacy, writes V. Lavrenko. However, it becomes increasingly clear that by dealing on economic blows against Argentina, the EEC also damages not only its economic interests, but also its political plans in Latin America. It is no secret that planning to admit Spain as another EEC member, the Community is hoping to bolster up its influence in entire South America.

In the West European capitals it is increasingly felt that the anti-Argentinian measure can turn into a political boom-or-bust.

France, which of late unconditionally supported the British action, is now vacillating. Italy is also reverting to its previously firm stand. Nervousness over the intensification of the conflict has considerably increased in Bonn.

In other words, every loophole is now being sought for the EEC to get out of the trap it has fallen into in the wake of Washington's policies.

THREAT SHOULD BE AVERTED

People will remember the eventful day when the red victory flag was raised amid flames over the fascist Reichstag. Raised by a Soviet soldier, the flag symbolized the fact that socialism and peace are stronger than imperialism and war, writes PRAVDA's analyst Vasily Korotkov.

This realization acquires special significance today when the peace forces are intensifying the struggle to ward off a far more dangerous nuclear-missile war now threatening the world.

In the post-war period imperialism was responsible for over a hundred wars and military conflicts, the official statistics involving over 12 million troops from capitalist countries, many millions died in just 30 biggest of them. The fact that the planet has still been going on for 37 years without a major war is primarily due to the existence of forces capable of checking the imperialist mania.

CALCULATIONS AND MISCALCULATIONS

The bombing raid of the Israeli planes against the Polesian camps and positions in Lebanon and the reign of terror in the occupied Arab territories are methods which Tel Aviv has adopted to crush the will of the patriotic forces in the Arab world — first and foremost of the Palestine Liberation Organization, writes A. Stepanov in the NEV TIMES magazine.

In Tel Aviv they calculate that the punitive actions against the PLO supporters will not lead to a confrontation between Israel and Egypt, but can provoke retaliation from the troops of the Palestinian Resistance Movement. The Israeli military, in turn, could use this retaliation as a pretext to subject the movement to an attack which has been in preparation in the south of Lebanon for a long time.

The Israeli leaders, who have acquired considerable experience in large-scale provocations, have taken, it would seem, everything into account except the absurdity and resolve of the Palestinian people.

DANGEROUS INSANITY

Isn't it insanity for the Pentagon, which is not content with its plans to deploy 108 Pershing-2s in the European theatre, to have ordered additional 225 such missiles to be manufactured by military concerns, asks IZVESTIA's correspondent in Washington Melor Shiruk. The excuse? It is said that price of every missile has gone up from 61 million to 166.7 million dollars and, therefore, it is necessary to produce more Pershings in order to make them cheaper and to cover the expenses by selling them, on the side, to West Germany.

Isn't it insanity when Secretary of State Haig categorically objects to the resumption of the negotiations for a first nuclear strike in Europe? As before, considerations of economy are invoked. A renunciation of this strategy allegedly requires a steep increase in spending on conventional weapons and even introduction of compulsory military service in the United States. If one follows Haig's logic, a nuclear destruction of East and West Europe will turn out to be much cheaper than that, and every dead European will turn out to be cheaper than an American called up for military service. Financially, this may seem sound business. From the human point of view, however, it is dangerous and criminal insanity.

Chances are the arms race should start from the dress circles of the Senate and from the gallery of the House of Representatives carry on echo of nuclear war. This should not be forgotten for a single instance.

when a motorcycle becomes aware of the danger and a pain when he puts on the brakes. It has been discovered that it lasts not one but two and a half seconds. This means that travelling at 80 km/h, a driver begins to react when his car has travelled 31 metres and not 17 metres as he previously believed. This conclusion has been made by biologists attending a seminar on road safety in the West German city of Cologne.

3 M dollars as the first price

Auction of the century was announced in Geneva by the Sotheby, Parke Bernet. One of the world's largest diamonds, weighing

ing 234.65 karats was offered for sale. The gem had been found in South Africa in 1863. The minimum price not on it by the company is 2 million dollars.

A ship in a bottle

To make miniature replicas of all the most famous ships of the 18th-19th centuries, Spanish artist — this artist has been set by the 47-year-old bank clerk Juan Rodriguez del Barrio. Up till now he and his wife have made 14 models. Each of them is 32 cm long and 18 cm wide and is placed inside a bottle, whose diameter does not exceed 28 millimetres.

Round the Soviet Union

● THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE "HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF THE BYELORUSSIAN LANGUAGE" HAS COME OUT OF PRINT CROWDING TWENTY YEARS OF PREPARATIONS BY LAHOUSSAN EXPERTS AT THE BYELORUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. Although it will take at least ten years to complete all the volumes of the dictionary, the scholars are in a great hurry in order to allow historians, few students, and men of letters to acquaint themselves as soon as possible with the wealth of information from numerous chronicles and ancient documents, or the cultural heritage of the people is an inexhaustible source of creative inspiration.

● A SYSTEM OF ANTI-LANDSLIDE FORTIFICATIONS HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY LAND RECLAMATION WORKERS IN TAJIKISTAN. Dams and concrete canals built at the foot of the Kuram range will reliably protect cotton plantations in the valley and farms in the Leninabad and Syrdarya regions from landslides. The system built in Delversin is the savanb in the mountainous area of cotton growing.

● AMATEUR DANCERS FROM THE KIROV FISHING FARM STARTED OFF AN ART FESTIVAL IN THE HARIU REGION IN ESTONIA MARKING THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USSR. The farm's best amateur group, Randlane, put on a suite based on dances of the Soviet peoples. The group, which enjoys wide recognition throughout the Baltic republics, also had much success touring France, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Finland, the GDR and other countries with a big concert programme.

● A DESIGN FOR A RECREATION CENTRE ON LAKE BAIKAL BY GRADUATING STUDENT K. ASHKHMIN FROM THE IRKUTSK POLYTECHNIC WAS VOTED AMONG THE BEST GRADUATION WORKS BY ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO ENTERED IN A NATIONWIDE COMPETITION JUST ENDED IN IRKUTSK. The author nicely blended the centre with the terrain and the nearby lake. There are nearly 50 colleges now insuring would-be architects.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

HEAVY INDUSTRY SETS THE PACE

In the overall volume of industrial output, 74 per cent is claimed by the production of the means of production, of Group A, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. Mostly, this group includes machines, equipment, raw materials, fuels, energy, etc.

This high share of the Group A products is necessary because this group sets the pace of technological progress in all the branches of the national economy.

In the 11th five-year plan of 1981-1985, the Group A output will increase by 25.5 per cent, and in absolute terms, this growth will be 23 thousand million rubles worth more than in the previous five years to reach 116 thousand million rubles. Particular attention is given to the production of advanced means of labour, particularly in implements. Their share within the Group A output will go up from 20.3 per cent in 1980 to 22.8 per cent in 1985. This steep increase is needed in order to have a rapid progress in technology and to re-tool the industries.

The current five-year plan envisages an outstripping rate in the development of engineering and metalworking where output is to go up 1.4 times. There is to be a considerable growth in the output of machines and equipment designed for industrialization of agriculture.

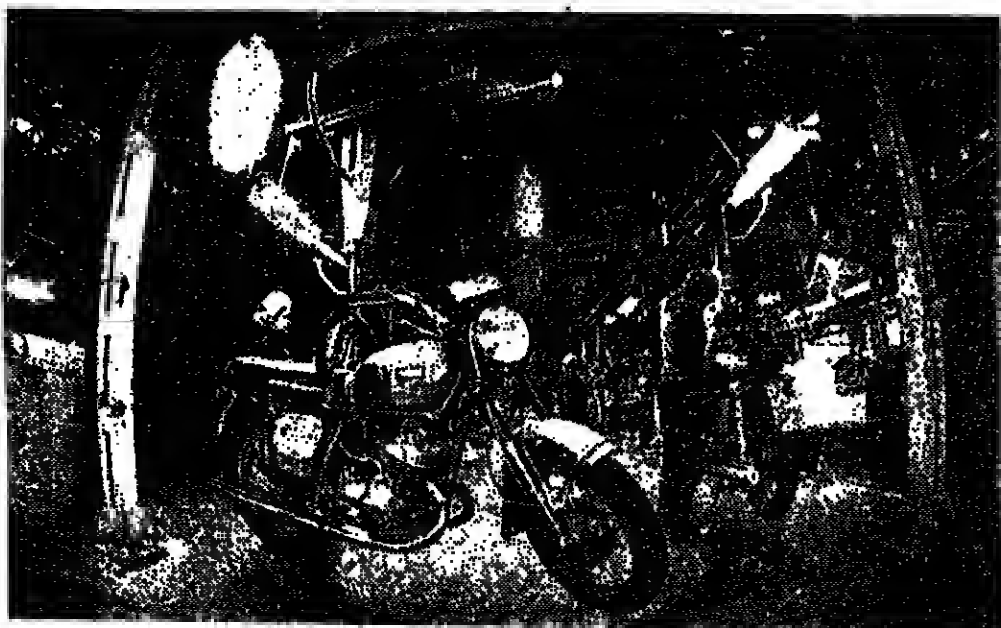


IZHEVSK MOTORCYCLE MAKERS

The Izhevsk family of motorcycles — IZH-Yupitor, IZH-Planeto, IZH-Planets-Sport — is well known both in this country and abroad. The latter has won a prize at the 33rd International Fair in Plovdiv. The Izhevsk vehicles are reliable, economical and easy to drive.

First Soviet motorcycles were made in Izhevsk, the capital of Udmurt Autonomous Republic, fifty years ago. More than 6 million of them have been turned out since. Izhevsk makes one of every three country's motorcycles. Its assembly lines extending for over 30 km unite all the processes from part distribution to packing motorcycles — one every 40 seconds. During the next five years the factory will switch over to another basic model, Yupiler-4.

- This vehicle will soon take to the road.
- Suspended conveyor.



TROUT FARMING IN SEAWATER

The local fishing cooperative "Banga" (Surf) in Latvia has started building an experimental factory for the breeding of trout in seawater. The specialists of the fish farm with the assistance

of scientists have for three years conducted experiments to adapt trout to seawater. This fish usually dwells in fast-flowing mountain streams and rivers. The rainbow trout fries were bred in

special cages installed in the Gulf of Riga. The fish has excellently adapted itself to seawater and gained in weight.

The trout fries which were born already in the Baltic waters will be reared in well-drained seawater reservoirs built at the new factory.

Such enterprises are to be built in other forms as well.

SIBERIA EXPLORED FROM OUTER SPACE

The scientists of the Novosibirsk Academic Centre have made maps of West Siberian rivers for past epochs of millions of years ago. They were able to trace the ancient, eroded beds of the rivers Ob, Yenisei and other waterways with the help of photos taken by earth satellites and orbital stations.

This study of a remote past aroused great interest among specialists working on a project for diverting a part of the flow of Siberian rivers to the south so as to use this water for irrigation in the Central Asian republics. Scientists have located, for instance, that in the last half a million years the north of Western Siberia was covered more than once with inland ice which barred the way of the great Siberian rivers to the Arctic Ocean. During such periods the Ob and Yenisei discharged their surplus water to southern regions of Western Siberia. The choice of directions, suggested by the old beds of the Ob and Yenisei, will help save from building hydroengineering systems for diverting waters from Siberia in the southern region of the USSR.

Information on the east obtained in orbit, is widely used in the geological, hydrological, biological and other explorations of Siberia, a fast-developing territory of the Soviet Union. A deposit of non-ferrous metals were discovered in the Tura-Balkal Area and the far East with the help of pictures taken in orbit. Information from outer space was also used in delineating seismic districts along the route of the Balkal-Amur railway more than three thousand kilometres long.

NEW GAS FIELDS IN TURKMENIA

A new gas field has been discovered in the east of Turkmenia. First gas has been obtained from a well which is nearly three kilometres deep in the area of Cherkent in the Karakum Desert. It is planned to bring the extraction of gas to the republic in the current five-year plan, capable to 8-10 billion cubic metres. Ten new gas fields are to be opened for the purpose.

one gets accustomed to the men that his life is constantly guided, his desires and actions being directed into the right channel. The pupil fails to acquire a most important quality — the ability to use his time on his own. But school should teach that, too.

The teacher should know when to give enough rope, how to organise children's self-government, not letting it grow into arbitrariness, how to give each child a chance, to be done for a while.

ARE NEGATIVE EMOTIONS ALWAYS HARMFUL?

Discussing the matter in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, P. Simanov, Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, says they get the answer not theoretically but experimentally. We found, he writes, that emotions are most varied — positive or negative, strong or weak, but when they involve an active search of a way out of a difficulty they are relatively harmless; they only resign oneself to his fate, succumbing to depression this is very harmful.

A person should be actively seeking the way out of a difficulty. Simanov emphasises: this makes for striking coincidence with purely biological, medical and psychological purposes. Vigorous purposeful activities to meet extreme needs — both social, cognitive and creative — are extremely conducive. It turns out, not only is moral, psychic well-being but just to good health.

LAND TRANSFORMED

The transformation of the Non-Black Earth Zone occupying a large part of the European Soviet Union has become one of the most important national projects, writes the POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE magazine. Between 1976 and 1980, more than 31,000 million rubles were earmarked for the development of agriculture there, or 1.8 times more than in the previous five-year plan. Collective and state farms in the area received 35 per cent more fertilizers and lime alone materials, and 1.3 million hectares of drained or irrigated fields of land have been put under cultivation.

It is the main task for the farmers in the area to use all these resources rationally and to give utmost attention to the best possible use of land, the main wealth of the area. This presupposes introduction of such crops and agricultural processes which ensure high yields in any weather, and to secure a rational use of fertilizers and machines.

STAYING AT SCHOOL ALL DAY?

Full-day stay of school, writes IZVESTIYA, when schoolchildren remain there after classes has opened new possibilities for parents and teachers. Those who spend the afternoon there can be given final education in the full sense of the word.

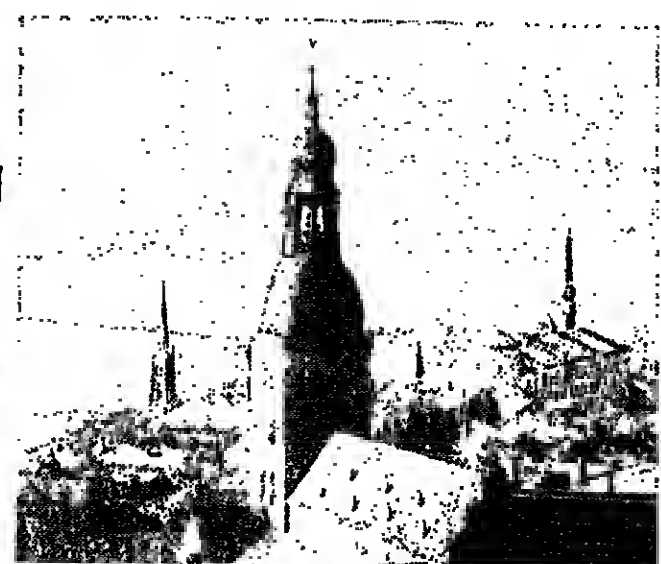
Knowledgeable teachers know quite well, however, that with all its positive sides, the full-day stay has certain drawbacks. The pupil (not always the very little

Places to visit

THE DOM CATHEDRAL IN RIGA

The cockerel weather-vane surmounting the spire of the bellry of the Dom Cathedral can be seen from any point in Riga. This ancient architectural monument in the Latvian capital is seven hundred years old. Started in 1211, it has been repeatedly modernized, and, as a result, its architecture combines most diverse styles.

For many centuries visitors to the museum and a concert hall. The heavy doors, bound by wrought iron, open several times a week to welcome lovers of music. Everyone coming to Riga wants to visit this famous concert hall, enjoy its beautiful interior and to see the organ gleaming with its golden decorations.



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WELCOME TO PLYOS

It has been decided to set up an historical, architectural and artistic preserve in the town of Plyos on the Volga River visited by thousands of tourists every year. The town, which is part of the Golden Ring of ancient Russian places, has several sanatoriums and tourist bases. The historic museum preserve will centre around the house museum of Isaac Levitan, the picture

gallery and numerous historical monuments. Several churches are to be restored to accommodate different museums. The tourist complex will incorporate a hotel for one hundred guests with a restaurant, along with several services and shops. Industrial construction in the town is to cease completely, and the existing industries will be moved outside the town limits.

Highrise buildings in the Tien Shan

People have started moving into new flats in the Western neighbourhood — the first high-rise area in the Kirghiz town of Osh. More than 10,000 will be giving housewarming parties.

Only three- and four-storey buildings used to be constructed in this town because of frequent earthquakes. In this mountain area, architects from the Kirghiz capital prepared the designs of quake-proof nine-storey buildings and paved the way for high-rise housing construction. The structure area can withstand nine-point tremors due to the so-called tremor-damping elements which present movable interstorey joints.

By raising, daringly urban structures over Tien Shan apes architects and builders tackle a problem which is of importance for Kirghizia, with mountains covering 93 per cent of the republic's territory and expansion possibilities of many towns virtually exhausted. Highrise housing is becoming an important factor of area's further social and economic development. Six million square metres of housing are to be commissioned in the republic over the current five-year plan period.

Rival for Hungarian cube

There has appeared a rival for the puzzle bearing the name of the guru, a Hungarian architect, who invented it — the Rubik cube. Alexander Ordyants, an engineer from Kishinev, called his three-dimensional logical game the Moldavian pyramid. His invention has been patented. One has to sweat a lot trying numerous variants before one succeeds in building the pyramid planes of triangles of the same colour. The number of combinations is astronomical although smaller than in the cube. So, on the one hand the game is easier for this reason. It is more difficult, on the other hand, because moving the game elements — fourteen small pyramids — round their axes which are not at the right angle towards one another is no easy task.

It is notable that the new puzzle is solved faster by people with highly developed three-dimensional thinking. According to game experts, the puzzle can also be used as a visual aid for studying descriptive geometry and develops logical thinking.

OF INTEREST

ORIGINS OF THE RUSSIAN GUITAR

The exhibition in Zvenigorod near Moscow is remarkable for its lack of usual museum quiet. The music room which has been opened in the museum of history, architecture and arts is alive with sounds of guitars and balalaikas, mandolins and domras. They were made in the village of Shikhovo near Moscow. Making musical instruments has been its main occupation here for two hundred years, they produce always in high demand among folk musicians and well known throughout the country and abroad.

The Russian guitar also originated in Shikhovo. One should know many secrets to make it. Not every wood is suitable: only fir and birch from the north, only beech and plane from the Caucasus. To make the wood resonant, it is being dried up for years. One more secret is known to the masters: the bolt connecting the upper board to the body is the only one, used in the whole structure, and not a single nail.



Anyone would be thrilled to play chess with the old made by Boris Fedorenko, a worker from the Zaporozhian steel works. His pieces come in the shape of Neptune, mermaids, dolphins, sea horses and other sea creatures. His set is a sort of museum where he displays his extraordinary figures. He is member of the city amateur art club of the Palace of Metal Workers. A whole corner of the Zaporozhian Museum is devoted to a display of items made by Fedorenko.

The works in ivory and metal and even carved objects from tree-roots. Many of his figures have been awarded diplomas at exhibitions of amateur art. His sculptures in miniature have been on display in the French city of Belfort, which is twinned to Zaporozhian.

In the photo: Boris Fedorenko at work. A metal chess piece (left) and his ivory chessking, Zaporozhian Chess (right).

VIEWPOINT

Five-year plan enters second year

Nikolai BAIBAKOV, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Chairman of the USSR Central Statistics Board

Under the 11th five-year plan of 1981-1985 this country will reach a qualitatively new level in the use of its available resources. We are dealing here with the intensification of the economy.

Should this formula be translated into the language of practical deeds, it will mean first and foremost that the results of production outstrip expenditure on it.

The 11th five-year plan was drawn up with these requirements taken into account. Among other things, it envisages that the Soviet national income should grow faster than capital investment: it is planned that over the five years the former should increase by 10 per cent as compared with 10.4 per cent growth in capital investment. The equivalent figures for the previous five-year plan period were 9.2 per cent rise in investment as against a 20.8 per cent rise in national income. To achieve a turning point in this tendency is rather complicated, but it has to be done. In the first year of the new five-year plan the national income grew by 3.2 per cent, while capital investment went up by three per cent. Although small, this difference is encouraging.

At present the value of each unit of output is increasing. Whereas in the five years between 1976 and 1980 one per cent of the national income amounted to 3.8 thousand million rubles, in the present five-year plan it is already worth 4.3 thousand million rubles.

The plan was drawn up taking into account the existence of several factors at work in the 80s which will complicate the economic development of this country. The natural growth of labour resources is on the decline (it will only be one-fourth of what it was in the previous five years). There will be increased expenditure on developing new areas in the North and East of the USSR and on the modernisation of many old industries; while expenditure on the development of the infrastructure and protection of the environment is also to go up.

Over the 1981-1985 five-year period there will be a significant change to the correlation between the accumulation and consumption fund, one of the vital structural ratios in the Soviet economy. The consumption fund share, i.e., those resources which go directly to meet the needs of the population, will reach about 78 per cent in 1985, as against 75.3 per cent in 1980. The real per capita income of the population will increase by 16.5 per cent. This task is being successfully implemented, as in 1981, incomes went up by 3.3 per cent.

The plan also envisages a change in another ratio — for the first time the growth rate in the output of consumer items will outstrip the rate of industrial growth taken as a whole. One of the growths in the means of production in particular. There have been noticeable shifts in this direction: the output of cultural and household items and of various economic goods increased by seven per cent in 1981, whereas the overall growth in industrial production increased by 4.4 per cent.

The solution of these problems will be made by many ways. In particular, the output of production in particular, the output of consumer items will outstrip the rate of industrial growth taken as a whole. One of the growths in the means of production in particular. There have been noticeable shifts in this direction: the output of cultural and household items and of various economic goods increased by seven per cent in 1981, whereas the overall growth in industrial production increased by 4.4 per cent.

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

Yevgeny NESTERENKO

Bolshoi soloist Yevgeny Nesterenko is the winner of the 1982 Lenin Prize for literature, the arts, and architecture for his performance of the part of Ivan Susanin in Glinka's opera at the Bolshoi, Boris Godunov in Mussorgsky's opera at the "Estonia" Theatre and for his concert programmes in 1977-1980.

Boris Godunov is Nesterenko's favourite, and he has sung him at all the major theatres of the world. "Emotionally and physically, this is one of the most difficult parts," says the singer. "Whatever I do in 'Boris Godunov' has been prompted by Mussorgsky's genius. It sets my breathing and my heartbeat accordingly. I seem to be experiencing the sensations which Boris himself must have felt, and I set my psycho and body accordingly. This influences my timbre and the intonations of my voice. Mussorgsky's genius lies in his truth."

Nesterenko possesses a powerful voice that of metal and he presents it subtly and delectably. He subjects the strength and the beauty of his voice first and foremost to the expressiveness at the tempo he creates. This is characteristic of all the leading bass parts which he has sung over the past ten years at the Bolshoi.

"I cannot get used to this happiness," he says. "Yet, it could have been all different."

When he was young, Nesterenko was not going to be a singer. His hobbies lay with mathematics and exact sciences. He dreamed of becoming an engineer. He certainly sang at amateur parties. On the insistence of his father he went to an engineering and construction college. In his third year of the college, he went to for singing, and became student at the Leningrad Conservatoire. After a few years with the Kirov Opera and Ballet, he sang his debut as Kuchukel in Tchaikovsky's "Mazepa" at the Bolshoi in Moscow. Today, his repertoire contains nearly twenty parts.



Among the distinctive qualities of his art are the rich and expressive intonations of his voice, a deep penetration into the meaning of the musical pieces and characters he is performing and splendid acting.

The varied concert programmes performed by Nesterenko include Russian songs, romances and chamber pieces. He performs each of them as if it were a play and of itself always opening up something new to the audience. He has made many translations of the texts of chamber pieces by Schubert, Beethoven, and Brahms. At present, he is preparing the main part for the opera "The Demon" by Anton Rubinstein. He is also taking part in the recording of the opera "The Marmalade" by Dargomyzhsky in which he is singing the Miller.

Margarita ANOKHINA

The Bolshoi to go on tours

Early this summer, the Bolshoi Opera will go on a month-long tour of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia where it will show the best operas from its vast repertoire.

These include "Eugene Onegin", and "The Queen of Spades" by Tchaikovsky, "Un ballo in maschera" by G. Verdi, "The Stolen Moon" by O. Taktakishvili and their new piece "Requiem" by G. Verdi.

The leading musical theatre of the country has extensive plans for tours. At the end of May the Bolshoi Ballet will go to Czechoslovakia where it will take part in the "Prague Spring" festival. "Roméo and Juliet" by S. Prokofiev and "Love for Love" by T. Kharlamov will be shown in Brno and Bratislava.

K. Molchanov's "Machbeth" and S. Prokofiev's "Roméo and Juliet" have been included into the programme of their tour of Italy. The leading soloists Ye. Nesterenko and Ya. Chursova will perform at the stage of the Colón Theatre, Buenos Aires, in M. Mussorgsky's "Khovanshchina" produced by the Bolshoi's art director G. Morozov.

Rainbow of folk talents

The "Carnouille Fête in Quimper" programme by French TV which has won the "Venus Prize" — the main prize of the International "Rainbow" folk art competition sponsored by Soviet Television. The French film is about the merry and picturesque folk fête, with folk art companies performing every year in August, the month of harvesting in France.

The "Rainbow" festival reflects all the richness and variety of folk art. The main aim of the television contest which is held every two years is to preserve for the generations to come the art of the peoples of the world. Each film-contest shows the art of different peoples and nationalities and expands our ideas of their history, everyday life, traditions and customs.

Thirty-four countries took part in this year's programme, the fourth such contest so far.

WHAT'S ON!

May 11-14

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 11—Concert by leading soloists. 12—Concert by Bolshoi soloists. 13—Shchedrin, "Dead Souls" (opera). 14—Double-bill: Rimsky-Korsakov, "Mozart and Salieri"; Tchaikovsky, "Iolanthe" (operas).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (19 Pushkinskaya St.). 12—Gershwin, "Porgy and Bess" (opera); 13—Bajazanyan, "Shakuntala" (ballet); 14—Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera).

Operetta Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 11, 13—Concerts by artists from Czechoslovakia and the GDR. 14—Milyutin, "Girls in a Flurry".

Chamber Musical Theatre (71 Leningradsky Prospekt). 12, 13, 14—Double-bill: Brecht, Weill, "Seven Fatal Sins"; Offenbach, "Opérette Hour".

FILMS

Week of Czechoslovak Films. Cinema "Praga" (10 Novaya Maslovka St., Metro Novolobodskaya, Bus 72).

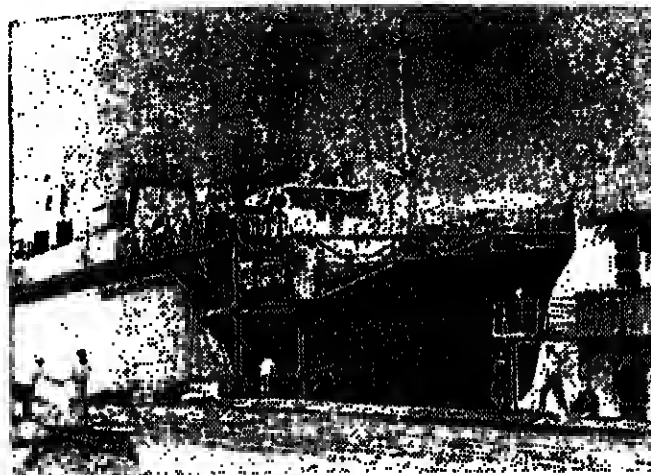
All Left for You (Gorky St. Studios). About outstanding Soviet writer Arkady Gaidar. Cinema "Otkryt" (Kalinin Prospekt), Metro Arbatovskaya.

EXHIBITIONS

Tretakov Gallery (18-Leningradsky Prospekt). After a long month period the main display of the Tretakov Gallery has been reopened, featuring 19th-century Russian art. Daily, except Monday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Metro Novokumenskaya.

Exhibition Hall, USSR Artists Union (4th Gorky St.). An exhibition of paintings by Peter Pavlovich Zaitsev is on view. Daily, except Monday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. On weekdays, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Metro Mayakovskaya. Trolleybuses 1, 12, 20.

BUSINESS



This floating ship repair complex supplied by the Soviet Union to the People's Republic of Mozambique is busy servicing the Soviet "Mongol" trawler and the "Shura" fishing vessel at the mixed Soviet-Mozambican Mosopeca fishing society. Repair and maintenance are being conducted jointly by Soviet and Mozambican specialists. There are also special courses training Mozambican ship repair personnel.

DEVELOPING CONTACTS

Over recent years Italy has increasingly accepted a leading place in USSR trade with Western European countries.

Maintenance was one of the first among Western firms to conclude an agreement on building chemical enterprises in the USSR as a compensatory basis providing for deliveries of Soviet products to Italy, said Carlo Tagliapietra, head of the firm's Moscow representation office. His firm has shown that this initiative was along the right lines

and other companies have followed our example. We have equipped two more plants than was originally agreed on. They are situated at various locations in the USSR—at Gorky, Yevan (Tajikistan) and at Ivana-Frankivsk.

Our success contributed towards a second agreement taking into account the eleventh five-year plan. It also envisages payment for equipment being made in the form of products produced by the new enterprises.

Adali POLEKHIN

Contacts and contracts

At a press conference held at the GDR trade mission in Moscow, details were given of the participation of GDR firms in the forthcoming "Eurasia-82" exhibition to be held in the Soviet capital. A large place on the GDR stand, which is expected to occupy an area of 1.3 thousand square metres, will be devoted to designs carried out in close cooperation with Soviet specialists.

At its 20th meeting, the Intergovernmental Soviet-Yugoslav committee on economic, scientific and technical cooperation has examined the implementation of the long-term programme for economic, technical and scientific cooperation between the two countries designed for the period between 1981 and 1990. It has recommended that the planning and foreign trade agencies of the two countries should start work to agree on the routine and terms for the devising of the plan for the trade and economic cooperation over the next five years.

The Wappler company, West Germany, has held a symposium on endoscopy in Moscow, sponsored by the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. The use of the company's endoscopic equipment, primarily in medicine, was discussed. The company has been doing business with Soviet organizations for over a year now, and has sold the USSR some 100 endoscopes via the OWEG firm.

Bridge of friendship

A bridge across the Altudarya River which will link the Soviet Union and Afghanistan is nearing completion. It is planned to open the traffic on the bridge this May, a year ahead of schedule.

30 YEARS in the world market

HIGH-QUALITY HOMOGENEOUS OUTPUT
EASY TO INSTALL AND NEEDS
MINIMUM MAINTENANCE
LOW OPERATION COSTS
CONE CRUSHERS

FOR COARSE, MEDIUM AND FINE CRUSHING

• for ferrous and non-ferrous ores, non-metallic extruded materials, stones and abrasives

Also good for making artificial sand, for preparing lead for cement mills, for making fertilizers and raw chemicals

20 COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY ENJOYED SOVIET CONE CRUSHERS OF VARIOUS DESIGNS



PERNOD RICARD'S TASTY PRODUCE

Alain Julliet, director of the French Pernod Ricard company, considers the Soviet market as one of the most important. The firm is a large producer and exporter to the USSR of cognac, aperitifs and other drinks. They are available virtually in all tourist hotels and the fact that the company is one of the largest French buyers and distributors of the Soviet Stolichnaya vodka which enjoys great success in France.

France and the USSR have traditionally good business relations, the Pernod Ricard director emphasized, attempts are being made to the West, however, to intensify with the development of trade with the Soviet Union. I think that these are reckless steps. Politics and business should stay apart.

Philately

An exhibition of several dozen stamp collections has opened in Moscow to celebrate the Victory Day. The postcard in the photo has been issued to commemorate the exhibition.

Intourist news

Talking to a "Moscow News Information" correspondent, Alain Julliet noted the importance of both good relations with dealers and the fact that the company is one of the largest French buyers and distributors of the Soviet Stolichnaya vodka which enjoys great success in France.

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Postcard to mark the V-Day

Its stamp depicts the Victory Order and a view of the Kremlin. In the left corner of the card there is a fragment of the monument in the Frunzensky district of Moscow to the war-torn Muravleva volunteer corps and the Gold Star medal.



New composition by Alfred Shnitke

Alfred Shnitke, a talented Soviet composer, has written music for the performance of "Census", an adaptation of Gogol's poem "Dead Souls". The composition was for the first time

performed in Moscow. The "Census" was played by the recently formed State Symphony Orchestra of the USSR Ministry of Culture under the baton of Gennady Rozhdestvensky in the Grand Hall of the Conservatoire. The outstanding conductor was the first interpreter of many of Shnitke's works.

The music to "Census" is spectacular and highly idiomatic.

Ballroom dancers compete in Lithuania

A ballroom dance contest featuring USSR and Austrian dancers is going on in the Lithuanian cities of Kaunas and Vilnius. First such competition among dancing pairs was held last year in Austria.

Five Austrian and ten Soviet pairs (from Moscow, Leningrad, Vilnius and Kaunas) will show

their art in Soviet, European and Latin American programmes. The competition will be judged by a jury including well-known ballroom dancers from the USSR, Austria, Czechoslovakia and the FRG. The contest programme concludes on May 13 with demonstration performances to feature the winners as well as two known Soviet pairs of Stanislav and Lyudmila Popov, Ceslaves and Jurele Norvalda and some West German top-notch pairs.

Marina DAVYDOVA

FACTS and EVENTS

Ballet. The Tchaikovsky Opera and Ballet Theatre in the city of Perm has staged a two-night performance of the opera "War and Peace" by Sergei Prokofiev, just as the composer originally intended.

Exhibitions. "Landscapes in 19th-20th-century Russian Painting" is on exhibition which has opened in the Russian Museum in Leningrad. Nearly four hundred oils and water colours on display have been sent by major Soviet art museums, picture galleries and numerous private collections.

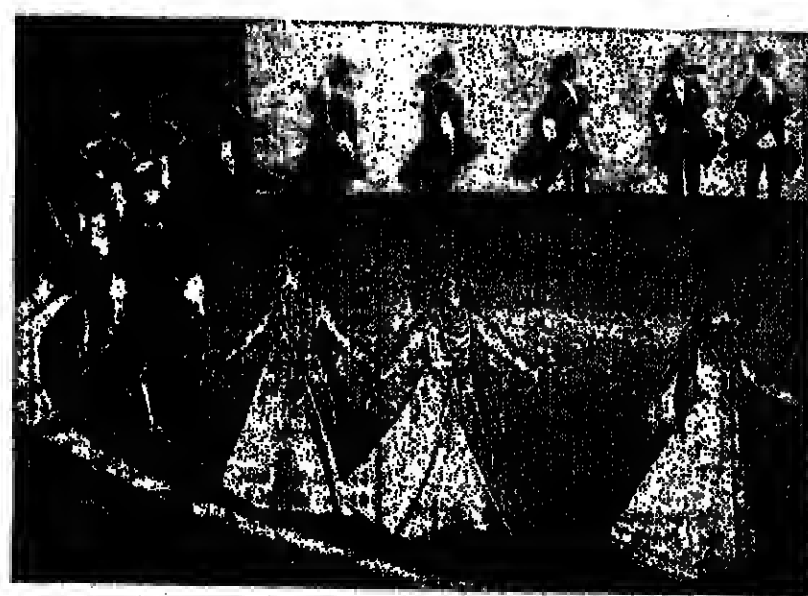
Cinema. "An Unfinished Piece for the Mechanical Piano" by art director Nikita Mikhalkov is on in cinemas in the United States. After the first showing "The New York Times" noted that the splendid play of the actors and the art director's ingenuity ensured the film a brilliant success.



FOLK ART PAGEANT IN MOSCOW

The Altan folk dance group from North Ossetia (below), and a Yakut ensemble won a lot of prizes at the current "Moscow Stars" festival in the Soviet capital.

Photos by Andrei Knyazev and Andrii Stepanov



CONCERT HALLS

Central Concert Hall (1 Moskva Embankment, Rossya Hall). 11-12—"Bellie Youth" variety programme featuring artists from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia.

Variety Theatre (20/2 Beraevskaya Embankment). 11—Singer Ivica Sartez. 12, 13, 14—A variety programme "Even a Cat Appreciates a Kind Word" featuring Yevgeny Paltosyan.

Tchaikovsky Concert Hall (31 Gorky St.). 11—Lithuanian Folk Ensemble. 12—Azerbaijani Song and Dance Ensemble. 13—Russian Folk Instrument Orchestra of the National Radio and TV Network.

Club v Gorky Torpedo. 14—Moscow Spartak v Moscow Dynamo. Both days 6.45 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Central Army Sport Gym (39 Leningradsky Prospekt). International friendly of men's teams. 12—Central Army Club v Budapest team. 7 p.m. 13—Moscow Dynamo v Budapest team. 10 p.m.

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Bogovaya St.). 12 and 14—Racing and trotting. Both days 18 p.m.

WEATHER

May 11-14

Cloudy with clear spells, showers May 11-12, wind W. About +2° to +6°C of night and +12° to +16°C during the day. Slightly warmer later on.

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Dynamo Stadium. 11—Central Army Club v Leningrad Zenit. 7 p.m.

Torpedo Stadium (4 Vostochnaya St.). 12—Moscow Torpedo v Minsk Dynamo. 7 p.m.

ICE HOCKEY

Lento Central Stadium. Small Sport Arena. 13—Central Army